

Appl. No. 10/003,800  
Amdt. dated March 10, 2006  
Reply to Office action of December 13, 2005

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (currently amended) A method for recovering a failed print task comprising:

sending a print task to a selected printer that is part of a network comprising at least one computing device capable of generating a print task, said network also comprising and a plurality of printing devices;

monitoring a print system said print task for a print task failure;

saving a failed said print task when a print task failure occurs;

monitoring said print system network for a successful print task;

identifying an alternate printer to which said successful print task was sent; and

resending said saved, failed print task to a said alternate printer to which said successful print task was sent.

2. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said monitoring for a print task failure, said saving, said monitoring for a successful print task and said resending are controlled by a print system component.

3. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein said print system component is a print processor.

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4. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein said print system component is a spooler.

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said resending only occurs when said alternate printer to which said successful print task was sent is the same printer as said selected printer the one to which the failed print task was sent.

6. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising determining the characteristics of said successful print task and said failed print task and comparing said successful print task characteristics to said failed print task characteristics to determine the ~~availability of a compatible~~ compatibility of said alternate printer for said failed print task and wherein said resending only occurs when said alternate printer is compatible with said failed print task.

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7. (currently amended) A method for recovering a failed print task comprising:

sending a print task to a selected printer that is part of a network comprising at least one computing device capable of generating a print task, said network also comprising a plurality of printing devices;

monitoring a print system ~~said print task~~ for a print task failure;

saving a failed ~~said~~ print task when a print task failure occurs;

monitoring said ~~print system~~ network for a successful print task that originates from a different computing device than the computing device from which said print task originated;

identifying an alternate printer to which said successful print task was sent;

analyzing a characteristic of said successful print task characteristics to determine the capability ~~compatibility~~ of the said alternate printer to which said successful print task was sent;

and

resending said saved, failed print task to a ~~said alternate printer to which said successful print task was sent~~ when said alternate printer is compatible with said print task.

8. (currently amended) The method of claim 7 wherein said ~~evaluating~~ analyzing comprises comparing the characteristics of said successful print task to the characteristics of said ~~failed~~ print task.

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9. (currently amended) The method of claim 7 ~~wherein said evaluating comprises~~ further comprising comparing the capability of said alternate printer to the requirements of said failed print task.

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 7 wherein said ~~evaluating~~ identifying comprises determining the location of said printer ~~from said successful print task data~~ and said analyzing comprises querying said printer for its capabilities and comparing said printer capabilities with the requirements of said failed print task.

11. (currently amended) A method for recovering a failed print task comprising:

sending a print task to a selected printer that is part of a network comprising at least one computing device capable of generating a print task, said network also comprising a plurality of printing devices;

~~monitoring a print system~~ said print task for a print task failure;

~~prompting a user to prioritize a failed print task when a print task failure occurs;~~

~~saving said failed print task when its priority is sufficiently high;~~

~~monitoring said print system~~ network for a successful print task;

~~analyzing said successful print task characteristics to determine the capability of the a printer to which said successful print task was sent;~~

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evaluating said printer's capability to determine whether said printer can print said failed print task;

prompting said user to choose to reprint said failed print task if said printer is capable of printing said failed print task; and

resending said saved, failed print task to said printer if said user has chosen to reprint said failed print task.

12. (currently amended) A method for recovering a failed print task comprising:

sending a print task to a selected printer that is part of a network comprising at least one computing device capable of generating a print task, said network also comprising a plurality of printing devices;

monitoring ~~a print system~~ said print task for a print task failure;

saving said failed print task;

monitoring said ~~print system~~ network for a successful print task;

analyzing said successful print task characteristics to determine the capability of the printer to which said successful print task was sent;

evaluating said printer's capability to determine whether said printer can print said failed print task;

modifying said failed print task to allow printing on said printer when said print task cannot otherwise be printed on said printer; and

sending said modified, failed print task to said printer.

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13. (original) The method of claim 12 wherein said modifying comprises emulating at least one element of said print task in software that would otherwise have been performed by printer hardware.

14. (original) The method of claim 12 wherein said modifying comprises emulating page formatting in software.

15. (currently amended) A system for recovering a failed print task comprising:

a first sender for sending a print task to a selected printer that is part of a network comprising at least one computing device capable of generating a print task, said network also comprising a plurality of printing devices;

a first monitor for monitoring a said print task system for a print task failure;

storage for saving a failed print task when a print task failure occurs;

a second monitor for monitoring said print system network for a successful print task;

an analyzer for analyzing said successful print task characteristics to determine the capability of the printer to which said successful print task was sent;

an evaluator for evaluating said printer's capability to determine whether said printer can print said failed print task;

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a sender for resending said saved, failed print task to said printer if said printer is capable of printing said failed print task.

16. (currently amended) A computer readable medium comprising instructions for performing functions within a print system component, said instructions comprising the acts of:

sending a print task to a selected printer that is part of a network comprising at least one computing device capable of generating a print task, said network also comprising a plurality of printing devices;

~~monitoring a print system~~ said print task for a print task failure;

~~saving a failed said~~ print task when a print task failure occurs;

~~monitoring said print system~~ network for a successful print task;

analyzing said successful print task characteristics to determine the capability of ~~the a~~ printer to which said successful print task was sent;

evaluating said printer's capability to determine whether said printer can print said failed print task;

resending said saved, failed print task to said printer if said printer is capable of printing said failed print task.

17. (currently amended) A computer data signal embodied in an electronic transmission, said signal having the function of recovering failed print tasks, said signal comprising instructions for:

~~monitoring a print system~~ said print task for a print task failure;

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saving a ~~failed~~ said print task when a print task failure occurs;

monitoring said ~~print system~~ network for a successful print task;

analyzing said successful print task characteristics to determine the capability of ~~the~~ a printer to which said successful print task was sent;

evaluating said printer's capability to determine whether said printer can print said failed print task;

resending said saved, failed print task to said printer if said printer is capable of printing said failed print task.